

Remarks

6. Applicant acknowledges, with appreciation, Examiner's further consideration and review of the claimed subject matter and withdrawal of the finality of the last Office Action (paper no. 5) of March 6, 2000.

7. Examiner rejected once-amended claims 13 and 15 "under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Haugwitz for reasons of record in paper no. 3, paragraph -3, mailed September 8, 1999 and paper no. 5, paragraph -1, mailed March 6, 2000."

8. With the finality of the last Office Action withdrawn, applicant has twice amended claims 13 - 15 in order to narrow their scope and to distinctly define their structures over the cited prior art of Haugwitz and the newly uncovered prior art of Madole (5,299,833), by including the following distinct limitations:

a) Each of twice-amended claims 13 - 15 now includes the limitation of locating their first area 8 immediately adjacent to the top edge 24 of the sticker perimeter 22, thus defining each individual postable sticker over Madole's structure wherein an adhesive-free area or registering margin (24) is located between the repositionable adhesive coated area (such as 22, 22a and 22b) and the top edge (14) of Madole's cut sheet perimeter, and

b) Each of twice-amended claims 13 - 15 now includes the additional limitations of i) having the postable sticker being directly stacked, in perfect perimeter registration onto a plurality of identical stickers, directly stacked in perfect perimeter registration upon one another, and ii) having no protecting means, release liners or spacers between the postable sticker and the plurality of identical stickers nor between the successive layers of the plurality of identical stickers, thereby defining their structures over Madole's and Haugwitz's.

9. Twice-amended claims 13 - 15 clearly distinguish applicant's invention over Haugwitz's in that applicant's structure lacks Haugwitz's limitation of a "protecting means other than paper", column 4, line 25 and line 39. In contrast, applicant's twice-amended claims 13 - 15 clearly state the absence of "any protecting means, release liners or spacers between said postable sticker and said

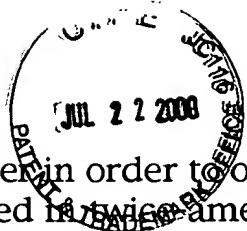
plurality of identical stickers nor between the successive layers of said plurality of identical stickers."

10. Next, Examiner rejected once-amended claims 13 - 15 "under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Madole (5,299,833)."

11. As discussed in paragraph -8 above, applicant's now twice-amended claims 13 - 15 also define distinctly applicant's invention over Madole's. Madole teaches a structure in which "a plurality of discrete paper sheets in registration with and overlying one another;" which "are secured in pad form one to the other by any suitable fastening means, such as staples or screws with wingnuts, which pass through the registering uncoated strips 24", "a first separation line", (such as 26, 26a, 26b and 26c) "extending generally parallel to and inwardly of the registering margins" (24) "of said sheets; a second separation line" (such as 28, 28a, 28b and 28c) "extending generally parallel to said first separation line and spaced inwardly therefrom; and repositional adhesive" (such as 22, 22a and 22b) "disposed on a face portion of each sheet between said separation lines" columns 3 lines 15 to 18 and column 4, lines 49 to 61, emphasis added.

Applicant respectfully wishes to invite Examiner's attention to the fact that while similar elements are present in Madole's invention and in applicant's twice-amended claims 13 - 15, such elements are arranged differently, thereby resulting in a novel structure with a more efficient utility. Additionally, Madole's limitation of an adhesive-free registering margin (24) between the repositional adhesive coated area (such as 22, 22a and 22b) and the edge or perimeter (14) of the cut sheet, which is present in all of Madole's teachings and claims is absent in applicant's twice-amended claims 13 - 15. Twice-amended claims 13 - 15 clearly specify that the adhesive coated area is located immediately adjacent to the top edge of the perimeter of the sheet and extends from one of the parallel side edges to the other parallel side edge of applicant's sticker. As such, Madole does not meet the anticipation requirement (*) that all elements be present in a single reference arranged as in the claim. In addition, a thorough examination of Madole's teaching and claims yields no suggestion of removal of the adhesive free "registering margin" area and stacking a plurality of applicant's stickers upon one

(*) In re, Lindermann Maschinenfabrik GmbH v. American Hoist & Derrick Co. 730 F. 2d 1452, copy attached for Examiner's reference.



another in order to obtain applicant's novel stacked structure claimed in twice-amended claims 13 - 15. In fact, the lack of Madole's "registering margin" in applicant's structure yields a postable sticker with a higher ratio of area of second area to total area of sticker and thus a better utilization efficiency of sticker for memo writing purposes.

12. In view of the above amendments made in claims 13 - 15 and the above presented arguments, applicant respectfully petitions that Examiner reconsiders his rejection of claims 13, 14 and 15. Applicant respectfully submits that twice-amended independent claims 13, 14 and 15 are now believed to be allowable and passage to issuance is respectfully requested.

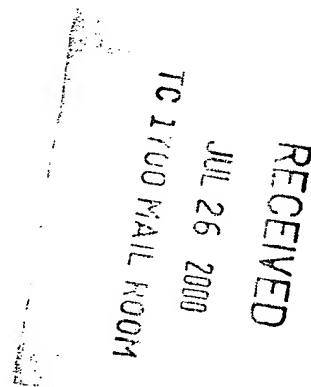
13. If there remain any matters that may be resolved by telephone, the Examiner is invited to call applicant to resolve such matters.

Respectfully,

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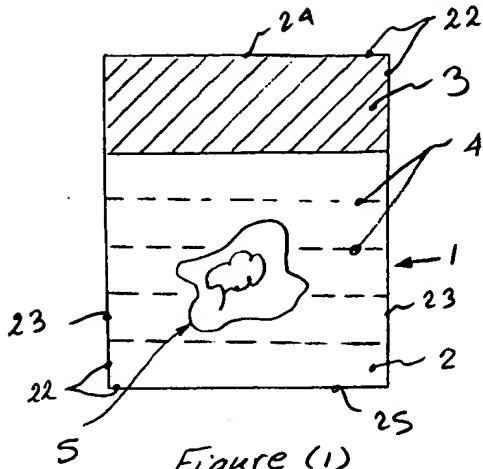


Figure (1)
(Prior Art)

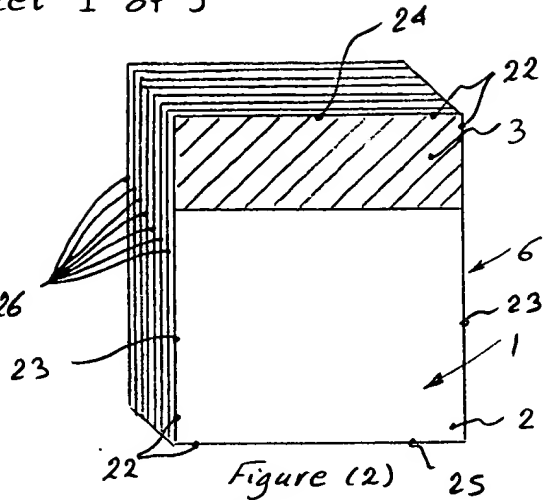


Figure (2)
(Prior Art)

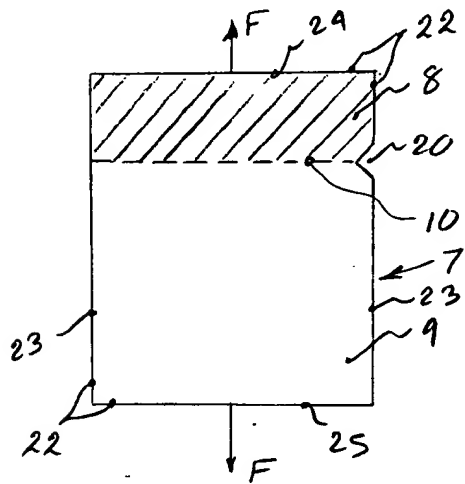


Figure (3)

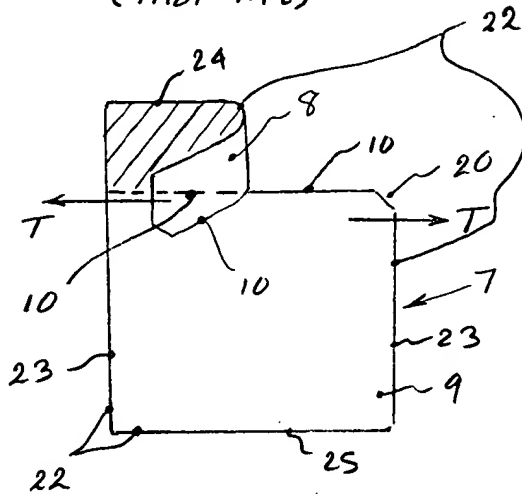


Figure (3-A)

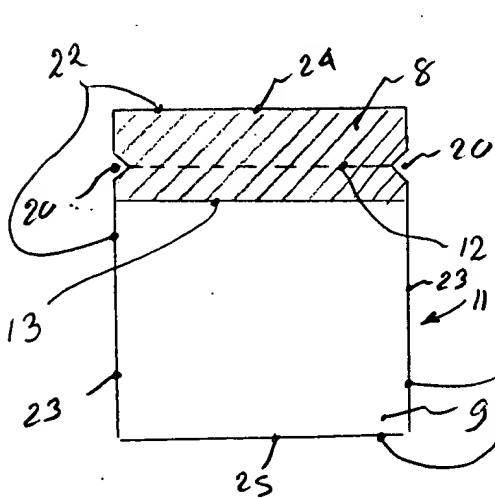


Figure (4)

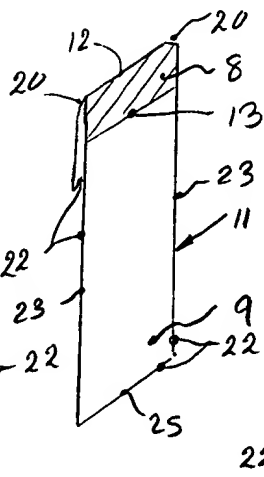


Figure (4-A)

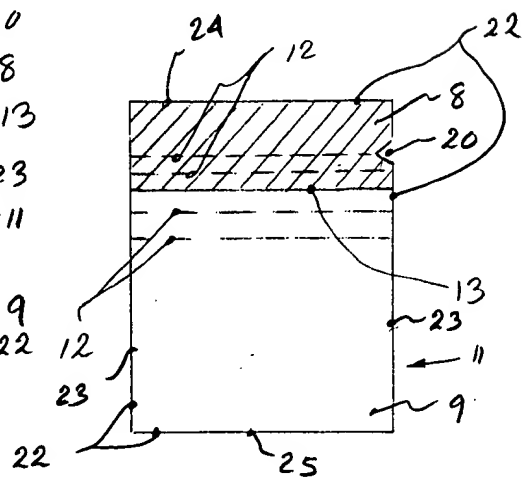


Figure (4-B)

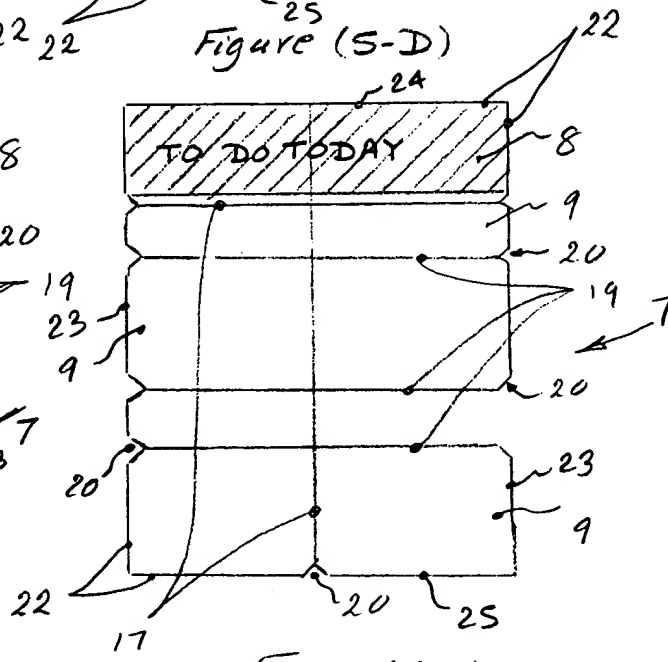
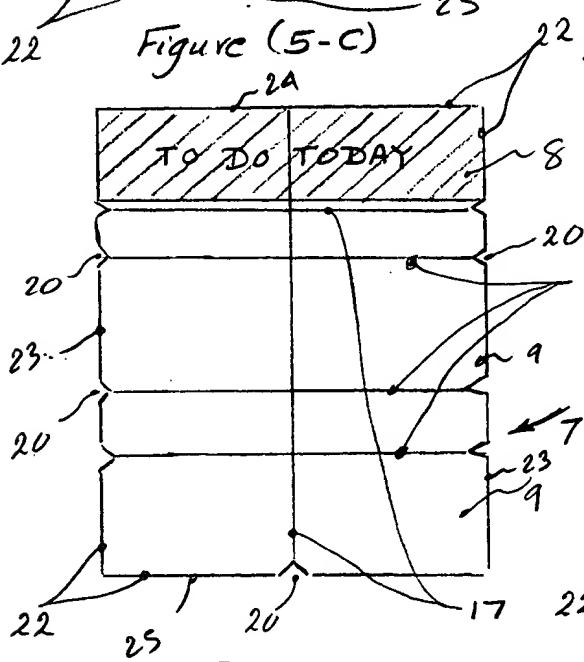
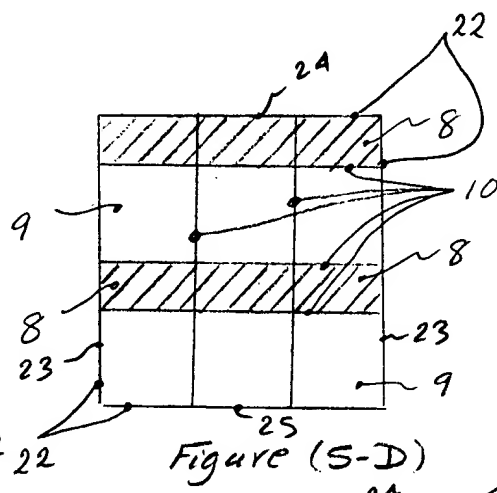
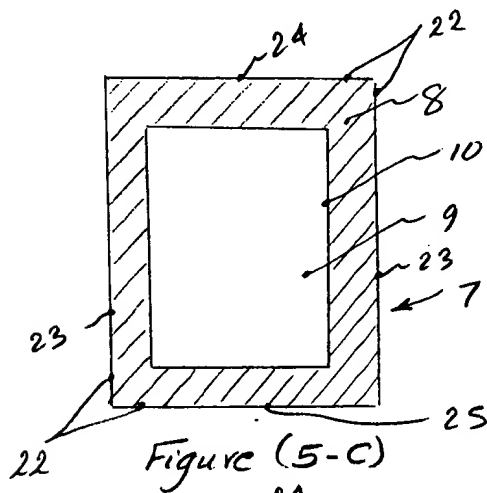
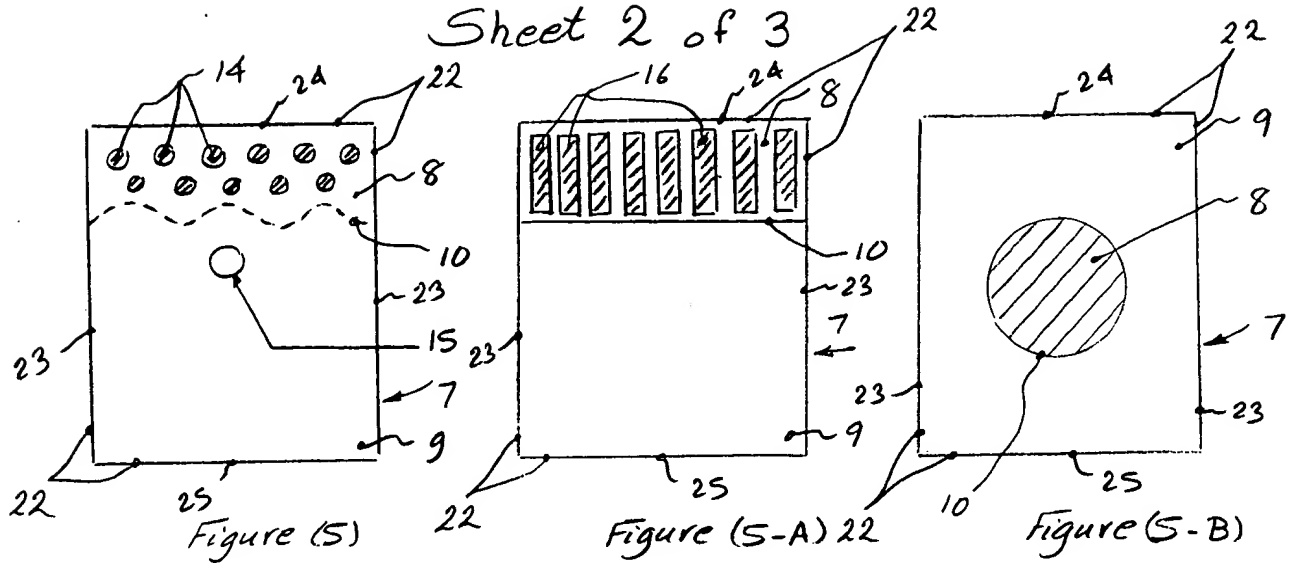


Figure (6)

Figure (6-A)

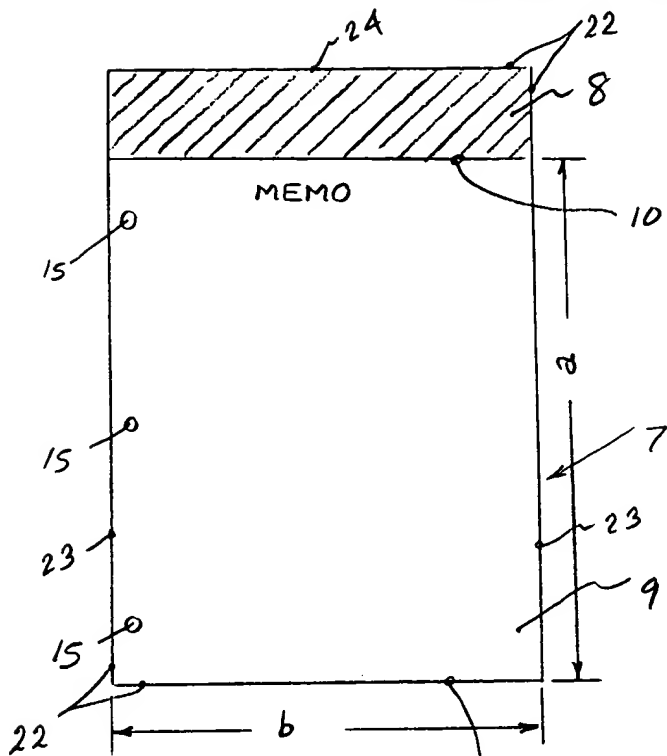


Figure (7)

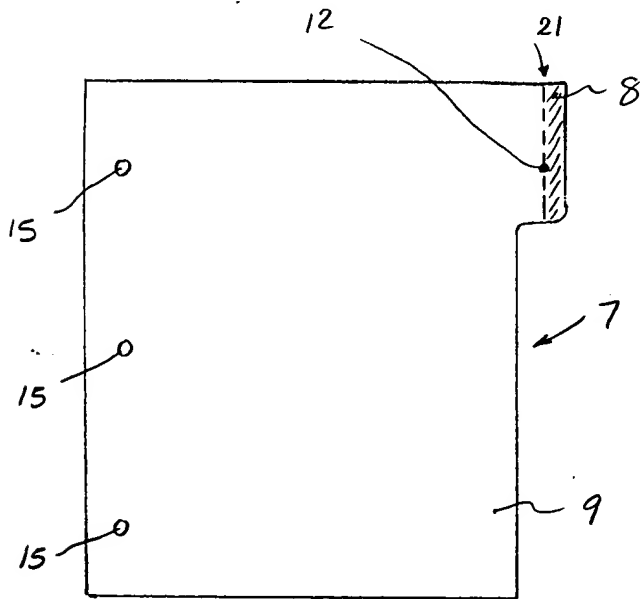


Figure (8)

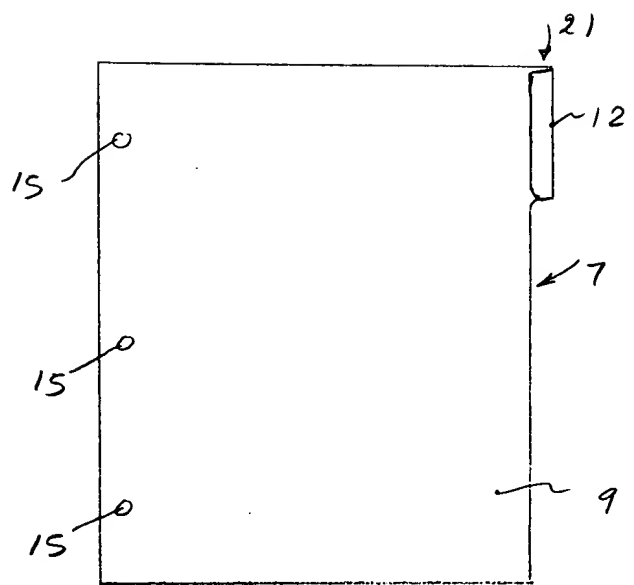


Figure (8-A)